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ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 072109Z NOV 08
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 6160

UNCLAS STATE 119197

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ASEC PREF SY

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SECURITY SURVEY OF REFUGEE SITE IN
DAMASCUS

¶1. In anticipation of Department of Homeland Security(DHS) interviews of refugees in a new processing location in Damascus, the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) and DHS US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) request that RSO provide a security evaluation of the processing site. We anticipate the contractors will conclude their work on Saturday, November 8. We appreciate Post's support of this project and note previous efforts to conclude the security survey.

¶2. Please evaluate the office of UNHCR, Kafar Suseh, Abdullah Bin Rawtha St., Damascus, Syria (Tel: 963 11 2139961/2/3, Fax 963 11 213 9929, Email [syrdapiu\(at\)unhcr.org](mailto:syrdapiu(at)unhcr.org))

¶3. Six to seven officers will be interviewing 650 cases (1800 individuals) during the months of November and December 2008. Additional 10-week/eight officer interview schedules are planned for each quarter in 2009.

¶4. If RSO Damascus has any questions about the proposed survey, please contact PRM's Admissions Refcoord Rusty Ingraham at IngrahamRP@state.gov or PRM Program Officer Simone Heinlein at HeinleinSG@state.gov.

¶5. This request is made in conjunction with DS/IP/NEA.
RICE